

The published script squeeze

Community theatre groups purchase most scripts from a play publishing service like Samuel French or Dramatists Play Service. Plays by other services and publishers have the same problem. They're small and the text is crammed into as few pages as possible. That doesn't make for a good rehearsal script.

Take a letter-sized piece of paper in landscape orientation and fold it in half to form a booklet. With size loss due to machine cutting, each leaf or one page of text measures 3.5 x 6 inches. The booklet itself is 7.75 x 10 inches.

Margins are from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, word count ranges from 240–400 words per page.

Although it's convenient to hold in one hand, there's no room to write down blocking and notes. You need to make a rehearsal script. The stage manager will do the same to create the production script. Actors also often make their own rehearsal script. People use a standard procedure to construct a rehearsal script.

To make a rehearsal script:

1. Photocopy the published copy.
2. Separate the pages.
3. Attach each onto either paper for use in a binder or the pages of a blank notebook

This keeps the script together and protected.

You are **not** going to make your rehearsal script this way.

Instead, you are going to use the published copy and type out a rehearsal script.